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Stanford sentenced to 110 years for \$7 bn Ponzi scheme

CHICAGO (AFP) - Financier and cricket mogul Allen Stanford was sentenced to 110 years in jail for a \$7 billion Ponzi scheme yesterday, closing the book on the flamboyant ex-tycoon's stunning fall from grace.

The verdict will bring some satisfaction -- but likely little financial relief -- to 30,000 investors from more than 100 countries who were bilked by bogus investments with Stanford International Bank.

Investigators could not find 92 percent of the \$8 billion the bank said it had in assets and cash reserves.

Stanford, 62, has spent the past three years in jail after being deemed a flight risk. He will likely never taste freedom again.

US district judge David Hittner handed down the lengthy sentence at a hearing in Houston, Texas, a spokeswoman for the US attorney's office told AFP.

Badly beaten in a jailhouse brawl, Stanford was temporarily declared unfit for trial after he became addicted to painkillers while also on antidepressants. He tried to have his case completely dismissed

after claiming that the beating and drugs destroyed his memory, but the judge denied the request.

Defense attorneys at trial tried to shift the blame to former chief financial officer James Davis, who they accused of perpetrating the entire fraud while Stanford naively placed his trust in his former college roommate. They also insisted the bulk of investor money was lost due to mismanagement by court-appointed receivers after the US government seized the bank.

Prosecutors scoffed at the notion, and said Stanford funded his lavish lifestyle by siphoning off \$2 billion in investor deposits while pushing "bogus" certificates of deposits that promised artificially high returns based on "safe" investments.

Jurors found the mustachioed Texan guilty of 13 of 14 counts of fraud, conspiracy, money laundering and obstruction of justice in March.

A dual citizen of the United States and the Caribbean country of Antigua and Barbuda, Stanford was known for his largesse, especially on the two paradise islands.

Aruba leaves positive message at UN Human Rights Counsel

ORANJESTAD -- Minister of Justice & Education, Arthur Dowers recently led a delegation to the meeting of the Counsel of Human Rights of the United Nations in Geneva, Switzerland, with Minister of Internal & Dutch Kingdom Affairs, Liesbeth Spies in their company.

Participation in the 'Universal Periodic Review (UPR)' of the Human Rights Counsel is considered to be a stiff exam on the field of human rights. The Counsel of Human Rights of the UN evaluates the situation on human rights of the Dutch Kingdom on the basis of a report of the government and different critical conclusions of non-governmental organizations.

In due course, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights prepares a summation of the human rights situation of each country, using all the submitted reports prepared by non-governmental organizations. The goal of the UPR process is to improve the human rights situation worldwide. Every member country of the UN has to engage in this examination.

Minister Dowers indicated that at the outset there was some nervousness, because it is impossible to anticipate how critical the questions would be. Dowers reported that he clarified on what areas the government of Aruba is working to improve our human rights situation on Aruba. According to the Aruban Minister, we received a positive evaluation from the United States for our efforts in combating the illegal smuggling of people. He also clarified the situation in our correctional institute. With respect to our correctional institute, he said, we implemented a specific plan for improvement.

Detainees now have the opportunity to pursue an education; there is a plan for the re-socialization back into the community. They are also or-

ganizing security training for prison personnel. The human rights of prisoners have the full attention of the government, but it is not possible to change everything overnight, according to Minister Dowers. He said our resources are limited; hence we are proceeding one step at a time.

Dowers used the opportunity to react to the recent criticism received from the Second House of the Dutch Chamber. They criticized the fact that several young detainees were incarcerated in unlit cells for 23 hours a day. They referred to the so-called "separation cells." These are cells that young people are put into when they demonstrate uncontrollable behavior and are separated temporarily.

The minister explained that these cells do have lighting, what they don't have is natural Day Light because of the way in which they were built so many years ago.

He expressed his disapproval of the false impression given that our young detainees



Minister of Justice & Education, Arthur Dowers

are constantly locked up in dark cells, because this is absolutely not the case. He said that they are exploring the possibility for each of the separation cells to have daylight.

Another point of attention for Human Rights at the Geneva counsel regarding Aruba was the treaty prohibiting child abuse. Dowers declared that... "in our legislation abuse is punishable, likewise child abuse at school or in any other institution.

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Stringent efforts to improve the quality of Aruba's emergency services



ORANJESTAD -- One of the most important departments of any country in the event of a calamity, accident, sickness, etc, is the service of the Ambulance and First Aid. The government of Aruba is working diligently on elevating the quality of our emergency services. Everything is being done to ensure that we adhere to international standards. The Ambulance service is the first to respond to any critical or crucial situation involving the lives of people.

In this context work is being done to train each person in the total link of the emergency services so that the service can be of top quality in the event of those most critical moments.

The Minister of Public

Health reported that Aruba now has 6 more Ambulance chauffeurs who scored high scores in their training program. After an intensive 4 months of training they assumed their positions and Aruba can be assured that they are proficient Ambulance drivers. Every year these drivers will receive refresher courses as well as they will travel to Curacao to keep abreast and upgrade their training.

In their final exam, in cooperation with the Fire Department, these drivers were confronted with different driving situations where they had to demonstrate their driving skills without putting the traffic in danger.

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Aruba leaves positive message at UN...

Continued from page 1



The complete delegation that went to Geneva under guidance of Minister of the Interior and Kingdom Relations Mrs. Liesbeth Spies.

However, it is not punishable when abuse takes place in the home by a family member. We are about to introduce legislation to prohibit child abuse in the home as well."

Dowers also mentioned Aruba's new law on compulsory education. After intensive training of the department dealing with this law, they anticipate that by 2013 this law will be fully implemented.

According to Dowers, one other matter to be attended to is to make the Aruba commission for human rights an independent body. Currently the management of human rights is in hands of the government, which is not in conformity with the treaty on human rights. And, we are obviously working on changing this.

According to Minister Dowers, in general the United Nations was very positive about Aruba. They admired the fact that Aruba is taking the matter of human rights very seriously and they also understand that because Aruba is a small island it is impossible to change everything immediately.

Dowers concluded his remarks at the UN that the guarantee and protection of human rights requires us to be working on this continuously. And,

that the government of Aruba is open to suggestions from other countries. In his own words..."I am of the opinion

that Aruba, once more succeed in presenting herself positively and that we have left a good impression behind."

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Stringent efforts to improve the quality of Aruba's . . .

Continued from page 2



The government recently purchased two Ambulances along with various other equipment to complete the "first responder" equipment. The training process will continue and other training will continue to be offered on different levels. Another very important aspect in the development process is the infrastructure. This entails the communication between the Hospital and IMSAN, which must be excellent at all times.

The Fire Department is also very important in the equation. For this reason the Fire Brigade is also under going training.

With respect to emergency response on motor bikes, they will eventually also receive special courses and training. Aruba has recently acquired 4x4 motor bikes which will provide special emergency response for those hard to reach areas where an Ambulance cannot go. For example, in the

National Park, Conchi, etc, which are very rugged terrain for an Ambulance. In respect to the response time, 4x4 motor bikes become a critical component in the first response to an emergency scene.

All in all Aruba's emergency services have the full attention of the government and is receiving the necessary skills training and upgrading to ensure the very best of service for any critical situation on the island.



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Norwegian Ving Travel Agents visit Aruba for a Fam Trip



Recently, Aruba received the visit of a group of travel agents from Norway for a Familiarization Trip. The group consisted of 6 travel agents from Ving Tour Operator company, part of the Thomas Cook group.

The travel agents represent different areas of the Norwegian country, covering a big area of travelers ready to visit our beautiful island. They visited several of our luxurious resorts and restaurants, and were also given an

island and catamaran tour by De Palm Tours. The agents were very fascinated and excited with the experience and the product Aruba, and now they have a better view of how to sell the island as a tourist destination.

This Fam Trip is related with the next winter season 2012/13, when Ving starts as the only Norwegian Tour Operator with direct flights to Aruba. An Airbus A330-200A from Ving's own airline, Thomas Cook Airlines Scandinavia, will be flying happy Norwegian tourists to paradise. Flights from Oslo starts every Tuesday from 11 December 2012 and the last departure is on 5 March 5, 2013.

The travel agents were accompanied by Aruba ATA Rep. Mr. Ernest Giel and Sweden ATA Rep. Mr. Joachim Gelhaar.

Youthful tennis players shine for the KIA Masters at Aruba Racquet Club



Kye Frankel center, Timothy in het veld 2nd and Lotte van Reek

The Aruba Racquet Club in Rooi Santo recently conducted their annual KIA Masters youth tournament, sponsored by KIA Motors, a subsidiary of Jolly Holding. The tennis tournament took place over the weekend of June 8 and 9, after a winnowing down process among over 200 young players to qualify as the "Best of the Best." ARC Tennis Coach van Reek organized the annual event to give aspiring young tennis stars an opportunity to understand the demands of tournament play as well as to single out those that have the talent and determination for the circuit.



First place Group 4 Danna Nunez

Four divisions of eight contenders vie for trophies and recognition, categorized in numbers one to four, with one being the toughest and most skilled players, and level four allowing a possibility for talented new players and younger competitors to demonstrate their potential. The placement in division is not decided on the players' age or gender, but purely on talent and skill. Final contenders qualify after weeks of competition, eliminating all

but "the best of the best." Young girls squared off against older boys if they have won their place, and those who make it to take a trophy have quite some potential.

Saturday's finals had 13-year-old Kyle Frankel battling it out with 16-year-old Timothy in het Veld for the top trophy in Level 1.

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Group 4 winners first 3rd and second

Mainstreet Father's Day Bazaar & Shopping night



Association of Merchants for a Better Mainstreet

ORANJESTAD -- The Association of Merchants for a better Mainstreet, MAMBO, together with the Aruba Government and the Department of Public Works (DOW) is organizing a Father's day Bazaar & Shopping night in the mainstreet, tomorrow, June 16, 2012.

The "Beach Tennis Aruba" organization is also organizing beach tennis events on the ex La Linda plot. The plot has been filled with white sand enabling professionals and invited players to play the whole day. There will be a tribune for the public, music, and drinks for the public. Santa Rosa will have tents selling local handicrafts, souvenirs and sweets.

The activities start at 10 a.m. and will last until 8 p.m.

MAMBO and the Aruba Government is doing their utmost to help the main street businesses, organizing activities to encourage islanders to do their shopping in the main street, especially during the construction phase.

There will be lots of goods at bargain prices, especially for the King of the House. And not to mention the sidewalk sale with special offers for everyone.

So come, enjoy the many activities, do your shopping and have a nice relaxing time tomorrow in the main street with the whole family.

MAMBO wishes all fathers of Aruba a Happy Father's Day.

Dutch minister visits Curaçao in crisis

The Dutch Interior and Kingdom Relations Minister Liesbeth Spies is in Curaçao to discuss the financial problems the fledgling country is encountering. Meanwhile, Curaçao Prime Minister Gerrit Schotte admits there is a crisis in government, but denies rumours in the media that his cabinet has fallen.

The coalition party leaders will meet today to iron out

their issues. Curaçao faces a budget deficit of 85 million guilders (approximately 35 million euros). A package of austerity measures for the Caribbean island must be agreed on by next week to bring the deficit down.

The Dutch minister warned Curaçao to get its finances in order back in May. She threatened to issue a directive if it didn't.

Central America braces for Carlotta's heavy rains

GUATEMALA CITY (AFP) - Guatemala, El Salvador and Nicaragua were on alert Thursday for Tropical Storm Carlotta, which threatened to blow strong winds and dump heavy rain across the region.

The Miami-based US National Hurricane Center warned that Carlotta could reach hurricane strength late today off Mexico's Pacific coast.

"A dangerous storm surge will raise water levels above normal tide levels along the immediate coast near and to the north and east of the center (of the storm). Near the coast, the surge will be accompanied by large and destructive waves," it said in a bulletin.

The National Coordination for Disaster Reduction of Guatemala called for urgent action because rains "could cause damage to bridges."

It also urged "extreme caution for fishermen from rising waves" and warned of landslides, mudslides and flash floods.

The US National Hurricane Center said the storm was expected to dump up to 30.5 centimeters (12 inches) of rain over the Mexican states of Guerrero, Oaxaca and Chiapas, along with the southern portion of Guatemala.

"These rains could cause life-threatening flash floods and mudslides," the NHC added.



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Youthful tennis players shine . . .

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Just as the sunset, Kyle took the tournament after some exciting and demanding rallies. Timothy claimed second place and Lotte van Reek was third.

Level 2 champion was Kevin Yarzagaray, who defeated Alexson Hessel, taking second place and Kevin Koolman was third. Level 3 winners in descending order were Daniel Bunschoteh, Jason Farro and Roberto Hoyer.

Among the younger players in Level 4, seven-year-old Danna Nunez claimed the top spot, the only other female player to win a trophy and the only girl in first place. She defeated second place winner Evan Kan and Sabastiaan Castona went home with the third place trophy.

It was an exciting weekend for young players and their parents, as those with the talent and determination to be winners demonstrated their spirit for the sport. Promising young player Kyle is going on to summer tennis camp in the U.S. where he will be training with pros to develop his talent and skills.

Coach van Reek expressed his gratitude to KIA Motors for sponsoring this annual tournament, allowing serious young tennis players to test their mettle.



by Rosalie Klein

Kyle Frankel show some winning form

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TUESDAY AND FRIDAY: LIVE MUSIC

International News

Obama, Romney go head-to-head on economy



CLEVELAND (AFP) - US President Barack Obama on Thursday told Americans they could break the political "stalemate" suffocating the US economy in November's election, as he sought to reframe his campaign message.

But his Republican foe Mitt Romney, in a dueling speech in the critical swing state of Ohio, savaged the president's economic policies, argued Obama had needlessly prolonged the recession and said "talk is cheap."

Obama, battered by a rising unemployment rate and set back by his own gaffe last week when he said the US private sector was doing "fine," is locked in a neck-and-neck fight with Romney as he strives for a second White

House term.

"There will be no shortage of gaffes and controversies that keep both campaigns busy and give the press something to write about," Obama said.

Obama portrayed Romney's economic policies as a return to the kind of approach that unleashed the financial crisis four years ago, and condemned their "top down" approach which he said unfairly favored the rich.

"If you want to give the policies of the last decade a try, you should vote for Mr Romney. You should vote for his allies in Congress," Obama said, trying to tar his foe with the unpopularity of lawmakers in Washington.

"Mr Romney is qualified to deliver on that plan. I am giving you an honest presentation

of what he is proposing," Obama said, his voice thick with sarcasm.

"I have a different vision," Obama said.

"The debate in this election is not about whether we need to grow faster or whether we need to create jobs or whether we pay down our debt.

"The debate in this election is about how we grow faster, and how we create more jobs and how we pay down our debt."

Obama argued that Romney would eliminate regulations for businesses and reward the wealthiest Americans with five trillion dollars in tax cuts, all while cutting government spending on education and other priorities.

"What's holding us back is a stalemate in Washington between two fundamentally different views of which direction America should take. And this election is your chance to break that stalemate."

But Romney, giving his own speech in Ohio, in the city of Cincinnati, about 250 miles (400 kilometers) from the Obama event, said the president's policies over the past three-and-a-half years had hammered the economy.

"As you look at the president's record, it is long on words, and short on action that created jobs. And, again, talk is cheap," Romney said.

"I want more good jobs for the American people and I want to help the middle class of America and I am going to do it."

Romney, speaking before the president, said Obama would roll out "all sorts of excuses" and ideas for how he would fire up the stuttering economic recovery.

"But what he says and what he does are not always the exact same thing."

Activists decry 'coup' after court ruling



CAIRO (AFP) - Egyptian activists and political figures on Thursday accused the military of a "soft coup" after the top court ruled the parliament illegal but kept an ex-prime minister in the presidential race.

They said a court decision that effectively voids the elected parliament and will probably mean legislative power reverts to the armed forces was a sign that the army was unwilling to cede the power it took after Egypt's 2011 uprising.

And they slammed the court's decision to keep Ahmed Shafiq, a former prime minister under ousted dictator Hosni Mubarak, in the race for president that goes to a second round on June 16 and 17.

"I'm disappointed beyond words," activist Ibrahim al-Houdaiby told AFP.

"This is in many ways a soft military coup. Now we have the parliamentary power going back to the Supreme Council of the Armed Forces, they will have their presidential candidate, they have the

arrest laws. So we are going back to square one."

The court's decision came a day after the justice ministry announced a decision allowing army personnel to arrest civilians, a power they lost with the lifting of the much-criticised decades-old state of emergency last month.

Egypt's military decided on a complex electoral system in which voters cast ballots for party lists which made up two thirds of parliament and also for individual candidates for the remaining seats in the lower house.

Houdaiby said the Brotherhood bore some of the blame for the court's ruling.

Many activists expressed simple fatigue after the disappointing ruling, which comes on the heel of what they saw as a weak verdict against Mubarak and a first round presidential race that left them with the unpalatable choice between Shafiq and Muslim Brotherhood candidate Mohammed Mursi.



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British PM told by Murdoch aide: 'We're in this together'

LONDON -- David Cameron received a text message from Rupert Murdoch's British newspaper boss saying they were "in this together", a press ethics inquiry heard yesterday during testimony from the prime minister.

The 2009 text from Rebekah Brooks -- who now faces criminal charges relating to the phone-hacking scandal at the News of the World tabloid -- raised fresh questions about Cameron's links to Murdoch's US-based News Corporation.

But during five hours of televised evidence at the Leveson Inquiry, Cameron repeatedly denied making secret deals with Murdoch's empire in exchange for the political support of the mogul's newspapers.

Brooks was chief executive of News International, News Corp's British newspaper

wing, when she sent the text to Cameron the night before a crucial speech to his Conservative party conference, when he was still leader of the opposition.

"I am so rooting for you tomorrow not just as a personal friend but because professionally we're definitely in this together. Speech of your life? Yes he Cam!," said Brooks in the text, which was read out to the inquiry.

"Yes he Cam" was the headline the next day in The Sun, Murdoch's top-selling British tabloid, which had come out in support of Cameron just over a week earlier.

Brooks also suggested that Cameron -- who knew her husband Charlie from their schooldays at the elite Eton College and lived near the couple -- have a "country supper" to discuss an "issue" with the Murdoch-owned Times news-

paper.

Brooks, 44, appeared in court on Wednesday charged with hiding material during the last days of the News of the World, which shut amid public outrage when it emerged the tabloid had hacked the phone of a murdered schoolgirl.

Her husband and four other people have also been charged and they will all appear before a judge on June 22.

The prime minister set up the Leveson Inquiry in July last year after the News of the World was shut down to examine the ethics of the press, but in recent weeks he has seen his own government effectively put on trial.

But Cameron hit out at "conspiracy theories" over his relationship with News Corp, especially his government's handling of the company's bid for control of pay-TV giant BSkyB.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Chavez reveals Venezuela has built first drone

CARACAS (AFP) - President Hugo Chavez has revealed that Venezuela has made its first drone in partnership with Iran, Russia and China, and said Caracas plans to start exporting it soon.

"It is one of the three planes that we have manufactured here, and we are continuing to make them... not just for military use, (as) much of its equipment is for civilian use," Chavez said Wednesday during a meeting with top military and defense officials.

The drones were developed in cooperation with "Russia, China, Iran and other allied countries," he said in remarks broadcast on radio and television.

Designed as a surveillance tool, the machine "does not carry arms" and has a 100-

kilometer (60 mile) sweep. It can fly solo for some 90 minutes and reach an altitude of 3,000 meters (9,000 feet)," said General Julio Morales, president of the state-run Venezuelan Military Industrial Company Cavim.

It was assembled from parts made in Venezuela and built by engineers trained in Iran, another official said.

Measuring four meters long (13 feet) by three meters (10 feet) wide, the drone can transmit real time photographs and video. It is currently being modified so it can also carry out night flights.

Cavim is also developing guns such as the AK103 in partnership with Russia, grenades and munitions, as well as more pilotless planes.

Honduras extends 'one person per motorcycle' law

TEGUCIGALPA (AFP) - Lawmakers in Honduras yesterday voted to extend a six-month old law restricting the number of people on a motorcycle at any given time to just one, saying the measure has been effective in stemming drive-by shootings.

"It remains against the law for two people to ride on the same two-wheeled vehicle," read the measure approved by parliament here that keeps the law in place indefinitely.

The bill extending the law was drafted upon the request of President Porfirio Lobo, who praised the "excellent re-

sults" that it had yielded so far.

The law, which went into force in December, made it illegal to be a passenger on the rear seat of a motorcycle -- the vantage point from which many assassins have taken deadly aim at their victims in recent years.

Motorcycles have been used in several high-profile killings in crime-plagued Honduras, including the shooting deaths late last year of journalist Luz Marina Paz and former government security minister Alfredo Landaverde.



RIO DE JANEIRO - Brazilian's indian Raoni chief speaks with journalist about his request, as Rio+20 environmental summit started in Rio de Janeiro, on June 14, 2012. The UN Conference on Sustainable Development opened Wednesday, launching a new round of debate on the future of the planet, its resources and people, 20 years after the first Earth Summit. (AFP PHOTO)

Health & Living

Surgery offers hope for victims of female genital mutilation

PARIS (AFP) - Fatima Sheriff has a sketchy recollection of the day her mother pinned down her four-year-old body while a stranger slashed at her genitals.

"I remember I was fighting," the 32-year-old told AFP, pointing to her back where she bears a scar from flailing about on the stony ground on which she was mutilated.

"I remember my mum was the one who held me," she said, recounting that her assailants had wielded a razor blade.

"If somebody did that to me today I would kill them," she said simply.

Sheriff was living in the west African state of Sierra Leone when the nightmare took place.

She is one of about 140 million women worldwide to have been subjected to genital mutilation -- a practice in which a young girl's clitoris and labia are removed, all or in part, in the belief that this will reduce libido and keep a woman chaste.

The cost to this beautiful young woman was years of shame and pleasureless sex, feelings of victimisation and inadequacy, and jealousy of women with intact genitals.

But 18 months ago, Sheriff's life changed when she underwent reconstructive surgery that included rebuilding her clitoris.

Following weeks of painful recovery, she was rewarded with her first orgasm.

"I went: 'Wow, that's me! I can do this!'" said the mother of two girls, recalling the event with tears in her eyes.

Sheriff, an aesthetician training as an English teacher, was a patient of Pierre Foldes, a surgeon at Poissy-Saint Germain Hospital northwest of Paris.

He is one of fewer than 10 doctors trained to do the procedure in France -- where the operation has been covered by national health insurance since 2004.

Foldes' 2,938 patients be-

tween 1998 and 2009 were mainly from Mali, Senegal and Ivory Coast, though 560 had been mutilated in France. Most were between the ages of five and nine when it happened.

With support from a sex therapist, half who had "restricted" orgasms were now climaxing regularly.

"Clitoral reconstruction after female genital mutilation is feasible," they conclude.

"It can certainly improve women's pleasure and lessen their pain. It also allows mutilated women to recover their identity."

According to the World Health Organisation, about three million girls a year fall victim to genital mutilation.

It is commonest in western, eastern, and northeastern re-

gions of Africa and the Middle East and among communities of migrants from these areas now living in Europe and North America.

Reviled and outlawed internationally, the practice not only wreaks emotional havoc.

It can cause health problems ranging from urinary difficulties, cysts and infection to infertility and complications in childbirth.

Sheriff said the surgery had given her a new self-confidence that resonates beyond her sex life.

She only recently started talking about her experience, and plans to launch a blog titled "My Clitoris and Me" to help women who have been through the same ordeal and encourage them to have the surgery.

WHO appeals for more blood donations

GENEVA (AFP) - The World Health Organization on Thursday called for more people to donate blood regularly, as the UN agency marked World Blood Donor Day.

"Every year, millions of people rely on the generosity of another person to donate blood," the WHO said. "Yet, blood donation rates vary considerably and the demands for blood and blood products are increasing worldwide."

"To meet these needs, more people must come forward to give blood voluntarily, and regularly," it added.

"With increasing life expectancy and the subsequent increase in the number of age-related, chronic diseases, including cancers, that require blood and blood products for treatment, demand outstrips supply," warned Dr Neelam Dhingra, coordinator for blood transfusion safety at the WHO.

"In addition, some blood products used to treat cancer patients, like platelets, have a shelf-life of only five days.

Help save lives



This means we increasingly need more blood donors to meet these demands."

The WHO said 92 million blood donations were made every year "globally, most of these by voluntary, unpaid donors."

"But of these voluntary donors, 30 million give blood once, and then do not return."

"We need to encourage these donors to come back and become repeat, regular donors," Dhingra said.

"Each blood donation is only 450 millilitres and by having more repeat voluntary donors, we can better assure the reliability of blood supply and safety of blood and blood products."

The WHO said the need for blood and blood products was rising in all parts of the world.

Every year, road traffic accidents cause 1.3 million deaths globally and, in addition, injury or disable between 20 million and 50 million people. Uncontrolled bleeding accounts for more than 468,000 deaths per year.

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Health Tip: Eat Right to Help Protect Your Vision

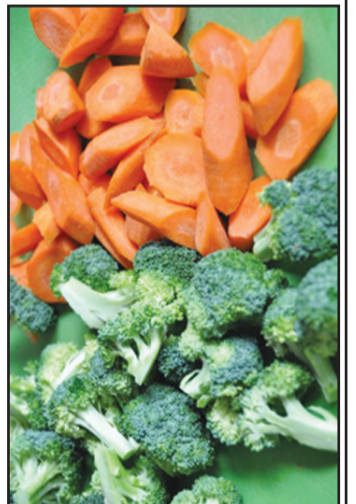
What you eat plays an important role in healthy vision, and may help prevent eye conditions such as macular degeneration, cataracts and glaucoma, the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics says. These food sources that can help promote vision health:

•Vitamin A: Select tomatoes, papaya, carrots and fortified milk.

•Vitamin C: Eat oranges, strawberries, peppers and broccoli.

•Vitamin E: Choose wheat germ, oils, nuts and seeds.

•For the nutrients zeaxanthin and lutein: Eat leafy green vegetables, mangoes, kiwi, honeydew, peas, broccoli, yellow squash, corn, red grapes and oranges.



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Sci-Tech

Time launches digital subscriptions for all magazines



NEW YORK (AFP) US magazine giant Time Inc. announced Thursday it would offer digital subscriptions for all 20 of its consumer magazine titles for iPad on Apple's Newsstand.

The titles includes Time magazine, Sports Illustrated, Money, People, Fortune and others, which will be available for US customers and in some international markets.

Time, a unit of Time Warner, said print subscribers will be able to access the digital editions at no additional cost, and that single issue copies will also be sold.

"We are thrilled to bring

our entire US portfolio to Newsstand. It's an important step toward fulfilling our goal of being everywhere consumers want us to be," said Time Inc. chief executive Laura Lang.

"People love reading our digital magazines already on iPad and we are confident we can deliver an even greater consumer experience on Newsstand with digital subscriptions."

The move comes amid a growing trend toward digital subscriptions for newspapers and magazines amid declining print readership.

Twitter widens window to links in tweets



(AFP) - Twitter added yesterday to the array of online content people could preview in messages without having to click on links included in tweets.

People who access the one-to-many text messaging service online at twitter.com or mobile.twitter.com were provided more opportunities to "expand tweets" with looks at pictures, videos, news article headlines or other content.

"You've probably expanded tweets before to play videos from YouTube or see photos from Instagram," Twitter product team director Michael Sippey said in a blog post.

"Now, a diverse and grow-

ing group of new partners like the The Wall Street Journal, MSNBC's Breaking News, and TIME also deliver rich content inside tweets containing a link to those websites."

Expanded links to articles posted in participating publications such as Der Spiegel or the San Francisco Chronicle will show headlines and story introductions, and sometimes the Twitter accounts of the writers or publishers.

Previews will also be available for links to video from Twitter partners such as Lifetime television network and French video-sharing website Dailymotion, according to Sippey.

Twitter said expanded tweets available at the service through Web browsers would be "coming soon" to its applications for iPhones and Android-powered smartphones.

Eliminating the need for Twitter users to navigate away to other websites gives the San Francisco-based firm more opportunities to make revenue with "promoted tweets."

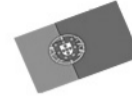
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Inventors scoop European awards



(AFP) - Inventors of a new drug for hepatitis B treatment, a tailor-made hearing aid and improved high speed data transfer were awarded a coveted European Patent Office prize here Thursday.

In the research category French scientist Gilles Goselin, and his co-inventors Jean-Louis Imbach, also of France, and the late US professor Martin L. Bryant won the prize for developing "a highly effective anti-viral drug against hepatitis B".

The new drug shows less cross-resistance with other medications and can thus be used as a first line of treatment, the European Patent Office (EPO) said.

One hundred times more infectious than the HIV virus that causes AIDS, hepatitis B (HBV) is a particularly persistent disease that chronically affects 350 million people worldwide, despite the availability of vaccines.

Some two billion people have been infected worldwide with HBV.

The EPO's Inventor Award in the category Industry went to Danish scientists Jan Toepholm, Soeren Westermann and Svend Vitting Andersen for developing a tailor-made hearing aid after becoming aware of the drawbacks of traditional hearing-aid design.

In the category Non-European countries the winners were Australians John O' Sullivan, Graham Daniels, Terence Percival, Diethelm Ostry and John Deane, of the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation, for developing a wireless LAN (local area network) for high speed data transfer.

The winner of the European Inventor Award 2012 in the category Lifetime Achievement, German Professor Josef Bille of Heidelberg University, was rewarded for developing a device for laser eye surgery.

Bille has filed almost 100 patents in the field of ophthalmology and is a pioneer in the area of laser eye correction.

The Munich-based European Patent Office launched the award in 2006.

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1. Enjoy the buffet
4. HST's preder
7. Emcee Parks
11. Entertainer Zadora
12. Muddle
14. Kong's buddies
15. Landon of politics
16. ___ Domini
17. VW horn sound
18. Porter's kin
20. Sales pitches
22. Magazine inserts
23. WNW's opp.
24. Scottish attire
27. Horses' harnesses
31. Drug-regulating org.
32. Enlisted men, for short
33. Gardner of films
34. Finally figure out (2 wds.)
37. Houston resident
39. Physicians' gp.
40. Split ___ soup
41. Soften
44. Composer Copland
47. Release money
48. Snooty manners
50. Beatty or Buntline
52. Summit
53. Upper bodice

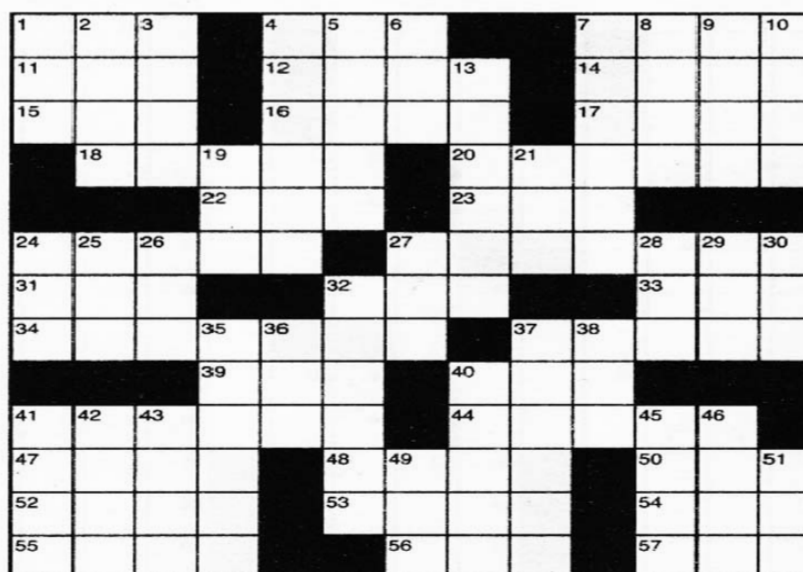
54. Address abbr.
55. Farm building
56. Natalie Cole's dad
57. Born

DOWN

1. Smog-watching agcy.
2. Is troubled
3. Teddy Roosevelt's successor
4. Fakes
5. Taboo things
6. "___ Tin Tin"
7. Pampered
8. Fencing blade
9. Scottish

10. Cook's measures (abbr.)
13. Also-rans
19. Cereal grain
21. Greek letter
24. Col. Sanders's outfit
25. Director Lupino
26. Nero's language (abbr.)
27. Storage box
28. Lenient
29. A Gabor
30. ___ Antonio
32. Leave (2 wds.)
35. Telephoned

36. Insurance plan option (abbr.)
37. Afternoon hostess's need (2 wds.)
38. Attention
40. Winter wear
41. Advanced degs.
42. To ___ his own
43. Small fruit
45. ___ even keel (2 wds.)
46. "Party of Five" actress Campbell
49. Charged atom
51. Billy ___ Williams



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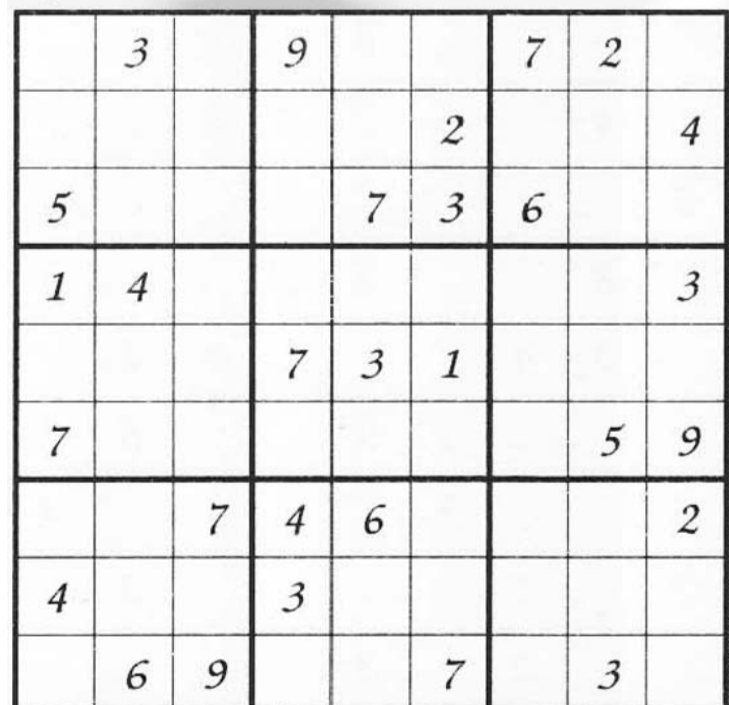
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2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	1
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	1	2
4	5	6	7	8	9	1	2	3
5	6	7	8	9	1	2	3	4
6	7	8	9	1	2	3	4	5
7	8	9	1	2	3	4	5	6
8	9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9
A number is Never repeated in a row or column.
In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9

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FINANCE

Spain borrowing costs smash record after downgrade

MADRID (AFP) - Spain's borrowing costs leapt to a euro-area record yesterday after Moody's downgraded its debt close to junk-bond status and warned of a rising risk of a full-blown bailout.

A weekend deal for euro-zone powers to extend a bailout loan of up to 100 billion euros (\$125 billion) to salvage Spain's stricken banks failed to stop an intensifying storm on the debt market.

Instead, the size of the rescue loan fed fears about its impact on Spain's mushrooming sovereign debt and prompted concerns that the state may eventually need rescuing itself.

The Spanish crisis is unfolding against the background of Sunday's Greek elections, further destabilising markets that fear a victory by anti-austerity parties could send Athens back to the drachma.

"We are living in a period of volatility, a tense situation," Economy Minister Luis de Guindos told reporters after meeting with Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy and other top policymakers.

"This week is a difficult week before the Greek elections and obviously the government is aware of the situation," the economy chief said. "But in these circumstances the government wants to send a message of calm, a message that we know absolutely that we have the support of all our partners."

The risk premium -- the difference in the rate between Spanish and safe-haven German 10-year bonds -- breached 5.50 percentage points, another euro-era record.

De Guindos said the risk premium was not sustainable over time and he was convinced the government's policies would bring it down "in the next days and weeks".

"The key thing is calm," he added. "The government is on top of things, it is on top of matters, it is taking measures and it will continue to take measures and it will do so not only depending on the risk premium and what's happening today but also depending on the interests of Spain and the eurozone."

Italy, France hope Greece will stay in the eurozone

ROME (AFP) - Italy and France said yesterday they hope Greece will stay in the eurozone, as Athens faces a crucial election which may see angry Greeks vote to tear up their bailout deal and return to the drachma.

"The Greek elections will take place in three days: I want to reaffirm the hope, shared with President Hollande, that Athens will remain in the eurozone and respect its engagements," Prime Minister Mario Monti said during a visit by French President Francois Hollande to Rome.

Fragile Dutch economy at mercy of euro crisis

-- The Dutch economy, struggling to escape recession, will face years in the doldrums if Europe's political leaders fail to put together a package of measures to contain the region's debt crisis, a government advisory body said yesterday.

The AAA credit-rated nation would fail to balance its budget as planned by 2017 unless it made an extra 25 billion euros of tax hikes or spending cuts, it said.

Publishing fiscal and economic forecasts up to that year, the CPB also broke ranks with the ministers it advises on economic policy, saying a banking union in the euro zone would help prevent

the crisis from worsening.

The country's caretaker government has opposed such a move.

The current administration replaced a pro-austerity coalition that collapsed in April, leaving a political void and unnerving markets that have long viewed the country as a key component of the euro zone's stable core.

Its economy is also struggling, with the European Commission expecting a GDP contraction of 0.9 percent this year, making it one of the worst performers in the euro zone.

The CPB agency forecast the Netherlands would emerge from recession in mid-2012 and grow 0.75 percent in 2013. The budget deficit would meanwhile dip to 2.9 percent of economic output, dropping below the European Union's 3 percent threshold.

But its forecasts assumed the euro zone debt crisis would be solved, Spanish and Italian debt would not be restructured and the global banking system would not face another severe downturn.

"If the crisis escalates, growth will be lower in the next few years than currently forecast and the Netherlands will suffer big losses," it said.

Algeria: OPEC leaves oil output ceiling unchanged



Algerian Energy and Mines Minister Youcef Yousfi

VIENNA (AFP) - OPEC decided to leave its oil output ceiling unchanged, Algerian Energy and Mines Minister Youcef Yousfi said yesterday after a key meeting in Vienna.

The 12-nation Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), which pumps one third of the world's oil, decided "to keep" its actual output ceiling at 30 million barrels per day (bpd) that was agreed

in December, Yousfi said.

"It was a good meeting," UAE Energy Minister Mohammad bin Dhaen al-Hamli told journalists as he left the meeting at OPEC headquarters in Vienna.

Saudi Arabian Oil Minister Ali al-Naimi added that he was "happy" without elaborating.

More details are expected at a press conference with OPEC secretary-general Abdullah El-Badri and Iraqi Oil Minister Abdulkarim al-Luaybi.

At yesterday's meeting, ministers grappled with plunging crude prices, the eurozone debt crisis and the weak global economy.

OPEC ministers are also expected to discuss a replacement for the Libyan El-Badri, who is set to retire at the end of the year.

So far, four candidates for the position have emerged, from Ecuador, Iran, Iraq and Saudi Arabia



Current as of: 06/14/2012	Currency Code	Buying rate banknotes	Buying Cheques	Selling Rate
U.S.A.	USD	1.77	1.78	1.80
Dutch Antilles	ANG	98.00	100.00	100.20
Canada	CAD	1.71	1.73	1.75
Britain	GBP	2.70	2.75	2.81
Switzerland	CHF	185.97	186.69	187.49
Netherlands	EUR	221.52	223.54	225.79
Sweden	SEK	24.30	25.02	25.82
Denmark	DKK	29.11	29.83	30.63
Norway	NOK	28.81	29.53	30.33
Japan	JPY	222.61	224.64	226.90

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ACLU	REALIZED	
	MEN	RUM
SHRED	SIMPERS	
PEERS	CNN	BIL
RICO	BOG	DEFY
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HBO apologizes for George W. Bush severed head scene

WASHINGTON (AFP) - Cable television network HBO apologized Thursday amid outrage for featuring a severed head resembling former President George W. Bush in a scene in its fantasy drama "Game of Thrones."

"We were deeply dismayed to see this and find it unacceptable, disrespectful and in very bad taste," Home Box Office said, blaming executive producers of the series for an "inadvertent careless mistake."

"We are sorry this happened."

The likeness of the presidential noggin appears for just a second with others impaled atop a row of stakes in an episode in the first season aired last year.

The show's creators David Benioff and D.B. Weiss recently drew attention to it in a commentary for the DVD.

"It's not a choice, it's not a political statement. We just had to use whatever heads we had lying around," they said.

"We use a lot of prosthetic body parts on the show: heads, arms, etcetera. We can't afford to have these all made from scratch, especially in scenes

where we need a lot of them, so we rent them in bulk. After the scene was already shot, someone pointed out that one of the heads looked like George W. Bush.

"We meant no disrespect to the former president and apologize if anything we said or did suggested otherwise."

HBO said the scene would be removed from future DVD production.

Bushiri Karting Speedway Go Karting this Summer in Aruba.



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Gold Coast Aruba: Great savings for large families on holiday rentals



Aruba's newest and most innovative gated community has enjoyed steady sales since breaking ground, as many are finding the secure surroundings and outstanding amenities are just what they were looking for before considering purchasing property on the island. Some owners are using the villas or town homes as vacation retreats rather than full time and are taking advantage of Gold Coast's rental services to turn their investment into ready income.

"The greater portion of home owners are using their 'home away from home' in Aruba to escape the winter months, or spend holidays with the family on the island," noted Gold Coast developer Fito Croes. To assist in the demand for more complete facilities for groups and families, famed hotelier Ed Malone has been placed in charge of the rental program.

Staying at Gold Coast is a very attractive proposition for those traveling with groups that would require multiple hotel rooms. Two and three bedroom Villas or Town Homes accommodate large numbers and offer extensive amenities along with a final cost resulting in considerable savings. The community is minutes to the best beaches and all the casino action, and offers a quiet and secluded getaway with two swimming pools and specialized services with more on the way, such as a fitness room, tennis courts and mini-mall. Ed can arrange maid service, babysitters, caterers, airline pick-up

and drop-off; they even boast a shopping service to stock your shelves before arrival.

Gold Coast accommodations are elegant and spacious, offering privacy for parents or a few couples.



Beautifully appointed kitchens and bathrooms grace each abode; barbecues and lounges are provided for friendly cookouts and truly savoring the island life. All homes come with cable TV,

high-speed fiber-optic Internet connection, individual washer/dryer, and are fully air-conditioned. Cribs, high chairs and hair dryers are available for a modest fee. Concierge services to arrange

rental cars, spa appointments, activities and restaurant reservations are all part of the package.

Check-in for your holiday escape is conducted in the comfort of your vacation home, not while waiting on line at check-in desk. In every way, Gold Coast seeks to pamper their guests while providing them with the feeling of being in a cozy community, not the normally bustling resort, particularly experienced during the major holidays. If you wish an optimal vacation experience with great savings, visit their website: www.goldcoastaruba.com to get acquainted with the community and the layout, details and availability of accommodations, or call 586-2200 to talk personally to a Gold Coast representative.



Adorable and affordable; 5 Burgers Aruba offers an island twist to the great American Burger

Expatriates from Boston, Massachusetts, residing on Aruba, Aaron and Rosie Walisever are living their dream: a home on paradise while welcoming all and sundry to their proud undertaking, 5 Burgers Aruba. Some may be quite well acquainted with a nationally known U.S. franchise bearing the name "5", and patrons can expect the same great quality between the buns, but an expanded menu and Rosie and Aaron's fanatical dedication to giving their customers what they really want has resulted in a unique menu.



Rosie and Aaron love their Burger too



Gouda Burger 2

"You never get a second chance to make a first impression," comments Aaron; and upon entering 5 Burgers Aruba in The Village Mall in Palm Beach, one is struck by utterly spotless surroundings and a smiling, friendly, attentive service crew. Of course, the main item on the menu is burgers-the way they were meant to be, thick and juicy, made fresh daily and 100% pure beef, the kind that made the hamburger a traditional American treat.

Prices vary only slightly between regular and small (basically 2 patties or 1) with specialty items such as Gouda Burger, Farmer's Burger, Man Burger (almost 12 ounces of choice beef), and a Western Burger with crispy onion rings and BBQ sauce. All of these can be personalized with an incredible array of toppings, (mushrooms, jalapeño peppers, bacon, cheese, lettuce, tomato... whatever the list goes on) at absolutely no extra cost.

5 Burger portions are ENORMOUS! Aaron suggests that even their small serving of fries, which are made from hand-cut fresh

Idaho potatoes, is enough to be shared by two. He was very amused to watch a famous French chef demonstrating the best way to make fried potatoes on a gourmet cooking show and could only comment "He stole my recipe!" Try them the English way-with vinegar, and you'll wonder how you ever ate fries without it. This same 5-star chef also swears by Gouda as the best topping for the ideal gourmet cheeseburger.

If you are a fan of crispy friend onion rings, as we are at THE MORNING NEWS, you cannot leave there without trying their secret recipe batter-dipped gourmet rings, made from fresh, not frozen onions. Unquestionably, the best we have had anywhere, and for those that like a little spice, the fried jalapeños are a real treat. Aaron and Rosie have expanded their menu to accommodate certain tastes and dietary needs; they offer a tasty grilled chicken sandwich as well.

5 Burgers Aruba is open for lunch & dinner - daily hours are Noon to 10-ish; delivery is available to both the high-rise and low-rise hotel and beach district for orders over \$50. Enjoy a great lunch without ever leaving the beach by calling 586-3904. However, we suggest you stop by and enjoy their authentic, heartfelt hospitality; it is not unusual for the owners when things are not too busy, to sit and chat while sharing their knowledge of the island. Totally yummy and fun plus a great deal for a quality burger, they are definitely worth a visit



EURO 2012 - POLAND - UKRAINE

June 8 - July 1



Spain give masterclass, as Croatia hold Italy



Spain's Fernando Torres (top R) scores

GDANSK (AFP) - Spain's Fernando Torres defied his critics with a brace on Thursday, as the European and world champions outclassed the Republic of Ireland 4-0 to move level on points with Croatia, who drew with Italy.

The Chelsea forward, who was brought off the bench 15 minutes from time in La Roja's first game against Italy, began the tie in Gdansk, as coach Vicente Del Bosque deployed an out-and-out striker for the first time in Euro 2012.

Torres, criticised last season for a run of poor form, provided the perfect start for Spain just four minutes after kick-off, latching on to a loose ball in

the Irish penalty area and firing hard and fast into the roof of the net.

Spain dominated possession but it was not until four minutes after the break that they doubled the score, when David Silva slotted the ball through a crowd of defenders after goalkeeper Shay Given failed to get distance on a punch.

Torres added a third on 70 minutes after Ireland lost possession on the half-way line and he was put through by Silva, outstripping the back line and keeping his head to beat the advancing Given.

Cesc Fabregas, who came on for Torres in the 74th minute, made it four from a tight angle after the Irish defence failed to pick him up on a corner on the right.

The win puts Spain, who drew 1-1 with Italy in their opening match, level on four points with Croatia, with Italy on two. Ireland and veteran coach Giovanni Trapattoni bow out of the tournament, having lost their first two matches.

Croatia earlier delighted their growing army of travelling fans when they battled back from 1-0 down to draw in Poznan.

Wolfsburg striker Mario Mandzukic -- who scored two in the 3-1 win against Ireland -- was once again the hero, when he fired past Gianluigi Buffon from close range on 72 minutes after slipping his marker at the back post.

But until Mandzukic's goal, Croatia fans in chequer-board red and white were subdued after Andrea Pirlo put Italy ahead on 39 minutes, curling in a sublime free-kick that dipped over the wall and gave goalkeeper Stipe Pletikosa no chance.

The goal followed a build-up of pressure from Cesare Prandelli's side, with Mario Balotelli going close on two

occasions and Claudio Marchisio forcing Pletikosa into a fine double save.

Italy, who drew 1-1 with Spain in their opening game, had been looking for victory to ensure they face Ireland in the final group game on June 18 with their destiny in their own hands, rather than having to rely on the Spain-Croatia result.

UEFA, meanwhile, announced fresh disciplinary proceedings against Germany after fans set off and threw fireworks during the country's 2-1 win over the Netherlands.

Portugal were also fined 5,000 euros for a delay to kick-off in the game.

Meanwhile Sebastian Larsson says Sweden are happy to be underdogs as they attempt to bounce back from their opening defeat against Ukraine in a crucial Group D game with England on Friday.

Sweden's hopes of qualifying for the Euro 2012 knockout rounds suffered a damaging blow on Monday after a disappointing 2-1 defeat to co-hosts Ukraine.

A further loss against England on Friday will see the Scandinavians eliminated from the tournament after two games.

Laurent Blanc has urged France to avoid the mistakes they made against England by starting strongly against co-hosts Ukraine in their second Euro 2012 outing in Donetsk on Friday.

France were second-best for the first quarter of their opening Group D match on Monday and fell behind to a 30th-minute Joleon Lescott header before earning a draw through Samir Nasri's equaliser nine minutes later.

Les Bleus finished the game at Donbass Arena in the ascendancy but they were unable to breach the English defence a second time and Blanc does not want them to handicap themselves with another slow start on Friday.

Victory for Ukraine would take Oleg Blokhin's men into the last eight and leave France dangling above the trapdoor of a third consecutive group-stage exit at a major tournament, but Blanc was bullish about his side's outlook.



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EURO-2012 Standings

A	W	L	PTS	GF	GA	D
RUSSIA	1	0	4	5	2	1
CZECH REP.	1	1	3	3	5	0
POLAND	0	0	2	2	2	2
GREECE	0	1	1	2	3	1

B	W	L	PTS	GF	GA	D
GERMANY	2	0	6	3	1	0
PORTUGAL	1	1	3	3	3	0
DENMARK	1	1	3	3	3	0
NETHERLANDS	0	2	0	1	3	0

C	W	L	PTS	GF	GA	D
SPAIN	1	0	4	5	1	1
CROATIA	1	0	4	4	2	1
ITALY	0	0	2	2	2	2
IRELAND	0	2	0	1	7	0

D	W	L	PTS	GF	GA	D
UKRAINE	1	0	3	2	1	0
ENGLAND	0	0	1	1	1	1
FRANCE	0	0	1	1	1	1
SWEDEN	0	1	0	1	2	0

W: Won - L: Lost - PTS: points - GF: goals for - GA: goals against
D: Draw

RESULTS EURO 2012

GROUP A

Czech Rep. 2, Greece 1
Poland 1, Russia 1
Poland 1, Greece 1
Russia 4, Czech Rep 1

GROUP B

Portugal 3, Denmark 2
Germany 2, Netherlands 1
Denmark 1, Neth. 0
Germany 1, Portugal 0

GROUP C

Spain 4, Ireland 0
Italy 1, Croatia 1
Spain 1, Italy 1
Croatia 3, Ireland 1

GROUP D

England 1, France 1
Ukraine 2, Sweden 1

FRIDAY'S Matches:

GROUP D

Ukraine vs France
(12 noon)
Sweden vs. England
(2:45 p.m.)



Lunch Buffet

Saturday - Sunday

12:00 - 3 p.m.

Dinner

Monday - Sunday

6:00 - 11:00 p.m

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Golf: Woods off to strong start at US Open

SAN FRANCISCO (AFP) - Tiger Woods got his bid to win a fourth US Open title, four years after he won his last major, off to a strong start at San Francisco's Olympic Club on Thursday.

The 14-time major winner looked comfortable and confident throughout his early morning round as he carded a one-under par 69, which left him near the top of the leaderboard.

Playing partner Phil Mickelson, however, struggled badly,

losing a ball in the gnarled Monterey Cypress trees with his opening drive and never really settling into his game after that as he limped along to a six-over 76.

The final member of what was the day's glamour grouping, Masters champion Bubba Watson, fared even worse as he sprayed the ball off the tee en route to a horrendous 78.

With the earliest of the morning starters back in the clubhouse, only a handful of players in a field of 156 had managed to duck under par at any stage on the rolling par-70 course, rated to be one of the toughest in years to host the US Open.

Leading the way was 27-year-old US qualifier Michael

Thompson who came in with a pace-setting, four-under 66.

Woods was coming off a win in his last tournament, The Memorial, but has struggled for consistency of late, best illustrated by a tie for 40th in the Masters in April - the worst performance of his professional career in the year's first major.

Starting from the ninth hole, the 36-year-old former world number one, found the first four fairways as he opened with five straight pars.

A bogey on the 14th was cancelled by a birdie on the par-five 17th where he holed from four feet as he went out in level par 36.

Woods then stayed steady through the Lake Course's

feared opening six holes highlighted by back-to-back birdies at the fourth and fifth where he sunk putts from 10 feet and then 30 feet.

He dropped one though at the next after failing to get up and down from a bunker having pushed his approach shot, and parred his way in from there.

Clubhouse leader Thompson, a runner-up in the US Amateur Championship here in 2007, had seven birdies against three bogeys in his round of 66.

He and Woods were the only sub-par rounds at that stage, though out on the course, former USPGA champion David Toms was one under with two holes to play.

Boxing: Irishman faces Chavez Junior for middleweight title

EL PASO (AFP) - Irish southpaw Andy Lee will fight for a world title for the first time in his career on Saturday when he faces unbeaten World Boxing Council middleweight champion Julio Cesar Chavez Jr.

Lee, who is 28-1 with 20 knockouts, has won his past 13 fights in a row over four years to earn a chance at the crown.

But to take the prize, he will have to dethrone the undefeated Mexican, a ring legend's son who at 26 is making his own fame and will be supported by throngs at Sun Bowl stadium, just across the US border from his homeland.

Chavez, 45-0 with one drawn and 31 knockouts, will be making the third defense of his first world title, won last June when he edged previously undefeated German Sebastian Zbik by majority decision.

Chavez, who has won 22 fights in a row since a 2005 draw, stopped American Peter Manfredo in the fifth round last November and took a unanimous decision over Mexico's Marco Antonio Rubio last February in prior title defenses.

Lee, 28, was a 2004 Olympian who turned professional in 2006 and trains in Detroit under Emanuel Steward.

"Preparations for the fight could not have been any better," Steward said. "We've prepared for every possible scenario. Chavez has never fought a fighter like Andy Lee and the champion is going to realize that on fight night."

Lee promoter Lou DiBella pleaded for a fair outcome in the wake of Filipino icon Manny Pacquiao's controversial loss last weekend to unbeaten American Tim Bradley, a verdict so contrary to what most observers saw that it has come under investigation.

"In recent times, the sport of boxing has been plagued by inexplicable decisions, questionable judging and the appearance of possible impropriety," DiBella said.

"The greatest hope of Team Lee is that the fighter who truly wins on Saturday night gets his just rewards and not simply the consolation of a public that knows the truth. "We are confident that the athletic commission in Texas, the judges and the referee are fully aware and agree that the sport of boxing cannot take and does not deserve more unnecessary controversy."

MLB Standings				
American League				
East	W	L	Pct	GB
YANKEES	37	25	.597	--
BALTIMORE	36	26	.581	1.0
TAMPA	35	27	.565	2.0
BOSTON	31	32	.492	6.5
TORONTO	31	32	.492	6.5
Central	W	L	Pct	GB
CHICAGO	34	28	.548	--
CLEVELAND	32	29	.525	1.5
DETROIT	29	33	.468	5.0
KANSAS	26	34	.433	7.0
MINNESOTA	25	36	.410	8.5
West	W	L	Pct	GB
TEXAS	37	26	.587	--
LA ANGELES	34	30	.531	3.5
OAKLAND	28	35	.444	9.0
SEATTLE	27	37	.422	10.5
National League				
East	W	L	Pct	GB
WASHINGTON	38	23	.623	--
ATLANTA	34	29	.540	5.0
NY METS	34	29	.540	5.0
MIAMI	32	31	.508	7.0
PHILADELPHIA	30	34	.469	9.5
Central	W	L	Pct	GB
CINCINNATI	34	27	.557	--
PITTSBURG	32	29	.525	2.0
ST. LOUIS	32	31	.508	3.0
MILWAUKEE	28	34	.452	6.5
HOUSTON	26	36	.419	8.5
CHICAGO	21	41	.339	13.5
West	W	L	Pct	GB
LA DODGERS	40	24	.625	--
SAN FRANCISCO	36	27	.571	3.5
ARIZONA	30	32	.484	9.0
COLORADO	24	37	.393	14.5
SAN DIEGO	22	41	.349	17.5
x-Clinched Playoff Spot; y-Division Champ				

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